

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KABUL 08334 061243Z

53

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

DRC-01 /085 W

----- 050809

P 061200Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6060

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KABUL 8334

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK

SUBJ: AFGHAN REACTION TO ASSASSINATION OF KHAN ABDUL SAMAD

KHAN ACHAKZAI

REF: KARACHI 2489

SUMMARY: AFGHAN GOVERNMENT PRESS AND RADIO CONTINUE TO GIVE HEAVY PLAY TO ASSASSINATION OF ACHAKZAI, TERMING HIS DEATH MARTYRDOM AND ATTRIBUTING IT TO "ENEMIES OF THE PASHTUN AND BALUCHI PEOPLES". NO DIRECT REFERENCE HAS YET BEEN MADE TO PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT, BUT STATEMENT NOTED ABOVE AND OTHER SIMILAR PIECES OF GOVERNMENT RHETORIC SEEM MEANT TO CONVEY USUAL IMPLICATIONS OF PAK GOVT DUPLICITY. NO EVIDENCE AS YET AFGHANS CONTEMPLATING ANY TYPE OF OFFICIAL "PROTEST" OR RESPONSE. END SUMMARY.

1. ALL GOVERNMENT MEDIA (RADIO, VERNACULAR AND ENGLISH PRESS) HAVE GIVEN FRONT PAGE TREATMENT TO ASSASSINATION. LONG ARTICLES AND EDITORIALS HAVE EXTOLLED ACHAKZAI'S YEARS OF "VALOROUS STRUGGLES AND COURAGEOUS FIGHTS AGAINST THE ENEMIES OF HIS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KABUL 08334 061243Z

PEOPLE*" BUT NO MENTION HAS BEEN MADE OF HIS RECENT STRAINED

RELATIONS WITH THE BALUCHISTAN NAP. LARGE CONDOLENCES MEETINGS HAVE BEEN HELD WITH DAOUD, NAIM, CABINET MINSTERS, AND GENERALS ALL IN ATTENDANCE. AFGHAN FLAGS WERE FLOWN AT HALF MAST ON DECEMBER 4. AJMAL KHATTAK, FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL OF NAP NOW RESIDING IN KABUL, AND A LONG LIST OF OTHER PASHTUN LEADERS HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR SYMPATHY.

2. INCIDENT HAS TOUCHED OFF NEW ESCALATION OF VERBAL CAMPAIGN ON PUSHTUNISTAN ISSUE. VOLUME HAD BEEN STEADILY RISING ANYWAY, BEGINNING WITH ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF WALI KHAN, BUT AFGHANS HAVE BEEN AND REMAIN CAREFUL TO KEEP TONE AND CONTENT OF ARTICLES AT SAME LEVEL AS PREVIOUS AND HAVE NOT MADE ANY NEW ATTACKS DIRECTLY ON PAK GOVERNMENT OR ON BHUTTO. THIS POLICY OF RESTRAINT HAS CONTINUED TO DATE WITH PRESS STATEMENTS (IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PAPERS) OF CONTINUED REPUBLICAN GOVT SUPPORT FOR THE 'LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF PUSHTUNISTAN.' HOWEVER, CONTINUED OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE AND PAK ARMY ACTIVITIES IN PESHAWAR AND TRIBAL AREAS ARE BEING GIVEN INCREASED PLAY IN PRESS. ASSASSINATION OF ACHAKZAI COULD PROVIDE A "CAUSE" FOR GOA IF THEY CHOOSE TO USE IT, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT ANY MAJOR NEW "MOVES" CURRENTLY CONTEMPLATED.

3. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT THIS COULD BE "AFGHAN PROVOCATION" (PARAGRAPH 3 REFTTEL) BUT SUCH SEEMS HIGHLY UNLIKELY AS AFGHAN GOVERNMENT WOULD MOST PROBABLY NOT BE WILLING TO COMMIT SUCH AN OVERT ACT IF THERE EXISTED ANY POSSIBILITY AT ALL THAT IT COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO THEM. WHILE WE CANNOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY, WE WOULD HOPE ANY SPECULATION ON IT COULD BE KEPT IN-HOUSE.
ELIOT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, BALUCHISTAN, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KABUL08334
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731241/aaaabehy.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: KARACHI 2489
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <02-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AFGHAN REACTION TO ASSASSINATION OF KHAN ABDUL SAMAD KHAN ACHAKZAI
TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK, (ACHAKZAI, ABDUS SAMAD KHAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005